



Pitts and the pharma lobby

As you reported, Feb. 6: Rep. Joe Pitts has twice the money for his 2012 re-election campaign. The fundraising bump coincides with his chairmanship of an influential health care subcommittee.

The majority of cash comes from health and pharmaceutical political action committees. Pitts' spokesman says it's due to " ... courage to do what's right"

Was he able to keep a straight face when he said that? The truth is, Pitts is another politician who sold out to special interest groups for campaign cash -- like other politicians.

It's time to vote for a change. Too bad we cannot get the system changed, but the lawmakers will never vote themselves away from the public feeding trough.

Michael Rauch, Ephrata

SDL chief, board assailed

In response to Gerald J. Buchko and Jean Byers.

First of all, your letters to the editor were wonderful. The sad thing is our school board and superintendent have total disregard for public opinion and outcry.

I have been very involved for over 20 years, but I've really seen a huge change since Superintendent Pedro Rivera has been in Lancaster. Our board answers to him, and that is not the way it should be.

The community came out by the hundreds and made it loud and clear they did not want him. We knew who would get us back on track. He has no

clue how to fix our educational issues, so he and the board focus on new buildings, parking garages and how to keep administrators happy who say "yes," Mr. Rivera, and give them raises. We are top-heavy and have been for years. I volunteered for years and raised thousands of dollars, but am no longer welcome because I don't agree with the superintendent. I haven't been to a board meeting in five months. The thought of a board president for the second year in a row with kids at Country Day and community comments at the end of the evening sicken me.

The funniest thing of all, the board thinks everyone is happy and that is why no one attends meetings. They are not even smart enough to figure out that no one believes in them and is tired of wasting their time.

As usual, our children are the losers.

Anna M. Smith, Lancaster